

EDUCATION

To qualify to take the Registered Geologist examination, an applicant must graduate with a major in geology **or** complete 30 semester units in geologic science courses leading to a major in geology. At least 24 of the 30 units must be upper division or graduate courses.

ACADEMIC COURSES

The Board considers the following courses to be essential to the geologic profession and to best prepare students to take the licensing examination. The Board also considers these courses a solid foundation for any specialty in the field of geology.

- Physical Geology
- Historical Geology
- Mineralogy
- Petrology
- Petrography
- Structural Geology
- Stratigraphy
- Field Geology

EXPERIENCE

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

An applicant must have the following combined academic experience and professional geologic work:

EDUCATION	PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIC WORK
No Degree	7 Years
BS/BA	5 Years
MS/MA+	3 Years

If professional geologic work is not gained under the supervision of a Registered Geologist or Registered Civil or Petroleum Engineer, the applicant must have a minimum of five years experience in a responsible position. Illegal unlicensed practice of geology is not recognized as qualifying experience for registration.

PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIC WORK

Professional geologic work is defined as work performed at a professional level rather than a subprofessional or apprentice level and requires the application of scientific knowledge, principles and methods to geologic problems through the exercise of individual initiative and judgment in investigating, measuring, interpreting and reporting on the physical phenomena of the earth. Implicit in this definition is the recognition of professional responsibility and integrity and the acknowledgement of minimal supervision. Professional geologic work specifically does not include such routine activities as drafting, sampling, sample preparation, routine laboratory work, etc., where the elements of initiative, scientific judgment and decision making are lacking, nor does it include activities that do not use scientific methods to process and interpret geologic data. Further, it specifically does not include mining, mining engineering or other engineering and/or other physical sciences wherein geologic investigation, analysis and interpretation are minimal or lacking.

RESPONSIBLE POSITION

Responsible position means a position whereby a person having individual control and direction of a geologic project exercises individual initiative, skill and judgement in the investigation and interpretation of geologic features or the supervision of such projects.

EXAMINATION

ASBOG

The National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) is a nonprofit organization through which state geology registration boards act together to coordinate and improve regulation of the practice of geology. One of ASBOG's principal duties is to develop standardized written examinations for determining qualifications of applicants seeking licensure as professional geologists. *

THE EXAMINATION

Beginning in spring 2000, the Board will administer the ASBOG examination with a one-hour supplemental California-specific examination. Examinations are administered in the fall and spring of each year. Currently ASBOG provides member boards with two multiple-choice examinations - the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and the Practice of Geology (PG) examinations. The FG is designed to test skills acquired in an academic setting. The PG examination emphasizes skills and knowledge acquired or expanded in a practice or job. *

ELIGIBILITY

The Board will evaluate each applicant's education and experience. If the application is approved, the applicant will be scheduled for the next regularly scheduled examination.

* ASBOG 1999 "Professional Geologists' Candidate Handbook"

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS?

MISSION

The mission of the Board of Registration for Geologists and Geophysicists is to continually enhance the quality, value and availability of geological and geophysical services to the people of the State of California.

THE BOARD

- Protects the health, safety and welfare of the public by testing and licensing geologists and geophysicists.
- Deters negligent, incompetent and fraudulent practices through licensure, regulation and disciplinary action.
- Provides the public with information concerning disciplinary actions against geologists or geophysicists it may hire.



**ANYONE WHO OFFERS TO
PRACTICE OR PRACTICES GEOLOGY
OR GEOPHYSICS FOR THE PUBLIC
IN CALIFORNIA MUST BE LICENSED
AS A GEOLOGIST OR
GEOPHYSICIST.**

QUESTIONS ABOUT LICENSING REQUIREMENTS AND THE EXAMINATION

For information about:

- Registered Geologist Examination
- Requirements for Licensure as a Geologist
- Examinations for Licensure as a Registered Geophysicist, Certified Engineering Geologist or Certified Hydrogeologist

please contact the Board at:

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SUITE 300A
SACRAMENTO, CA 95833**

**(916) 263-2113
FAX: (916) 263-2099**

**E-MAIL: geology@dca.ca.gov
WEBSITE: www.dca.ca.gov/geology**

**For information about ASBOG, please
contact:**

**P.O. Box 11591
Columbia, SC 29211-1591**

**E-MAIL: asbog@asbog.org
WEBSITE: www.asbog.org**

STUDENT GUIDE TO GEOLOGIC LICENSURE IN CALIFORNIA

**CALIFORNIA BOARD OF
REGISTRATION FOR GEOLOGISTS
AND GEOPHYSICISTS**



**An introduction to the three
steps to licensure as a
Registered Geologist in
California:**

EDUCATION

EXPERIENCE

EXAMINATION